

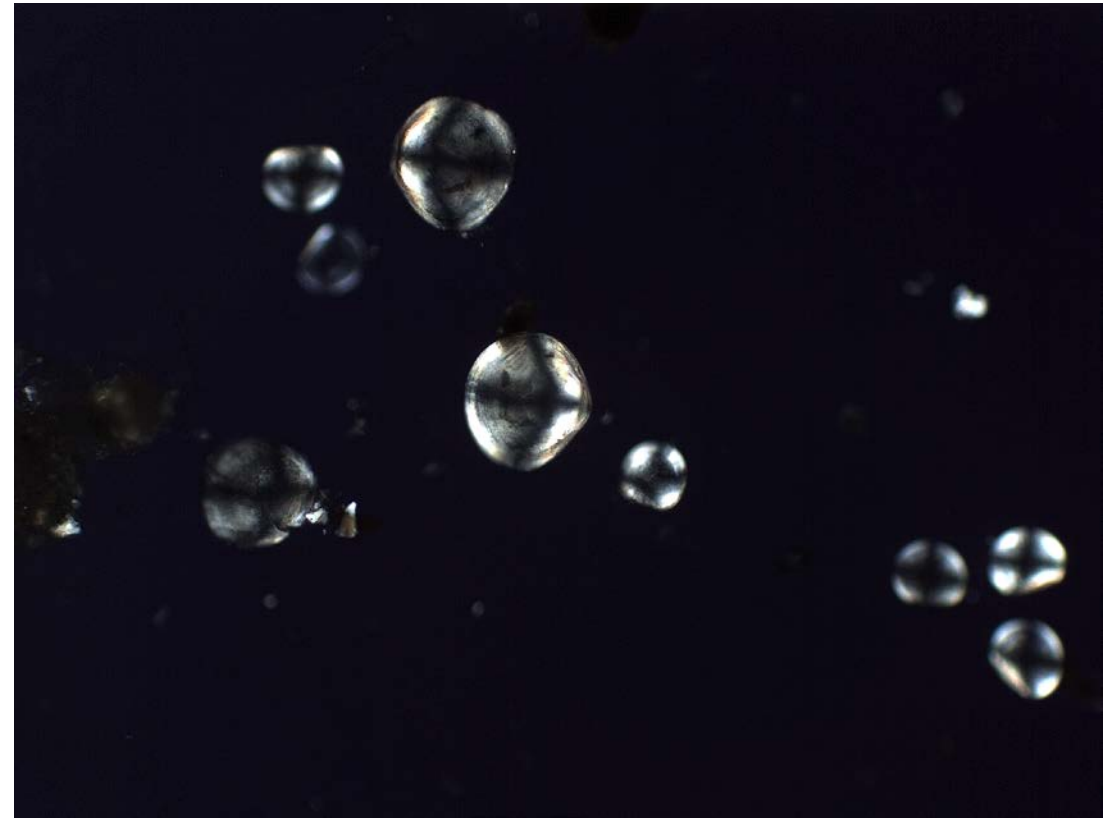
Local Boater Program

Education and Certification



Mussels in Montana

- In October 2016 invasive mussel larvae were discovered for the first time in Montana
 - **Tiber Reservoir – confirmed positive**
 - **Canyon Ferry Reservoir – unconfirmed suspect**
- In response to those discoveries, all boats recreating in these lakes will require decontamination upon exit of the waterbody.
- The Local Boater Program was designed to ease this process for boaters who recreate primarily at a single waterbody each season.
- MT FWP is concerned about many different Aquatic Invasive Species in addition to mussels.



Dreissenid mussel larvae

What are Aquatic Invasive Species?

- Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are plants, animals and diseases that are not native to Montana.
- They cause harm to the environment, economy and human health.
- AIS are easily spread from one water body to another by human activity, including boating.
- Anyone who works or plays in or around water can unknowingly transport AIS on their boats and equipment.
- Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is part of a strong partnership of public and private stakeholders in Montana committed to an effective strategy of prevention, containment and control of AIS.



New Zealand Mud Snail

Why you should care?

ALS can impact you in many ways:

- Aquatic invasive plants create dense mats impacting boat movement.
- Mussels clog irrigation pipes and infest hydropower dams, thus increasing your rates.
- ALS disrupt the way organisms interact and could alter the fish community.

You can make a difference!

What is the Local Boater Program?



- The program is applicable only for Canyon Ferry or Tiber Reservoirs
- It will allow you to avoid the need for decontamination if your next boating trip is on the same waterbody.
- The purpose of the program is to decrease volume at the decontamination stations as to allow FWP to focus on boats traveling elsewhere.

How Do I Join the Program?

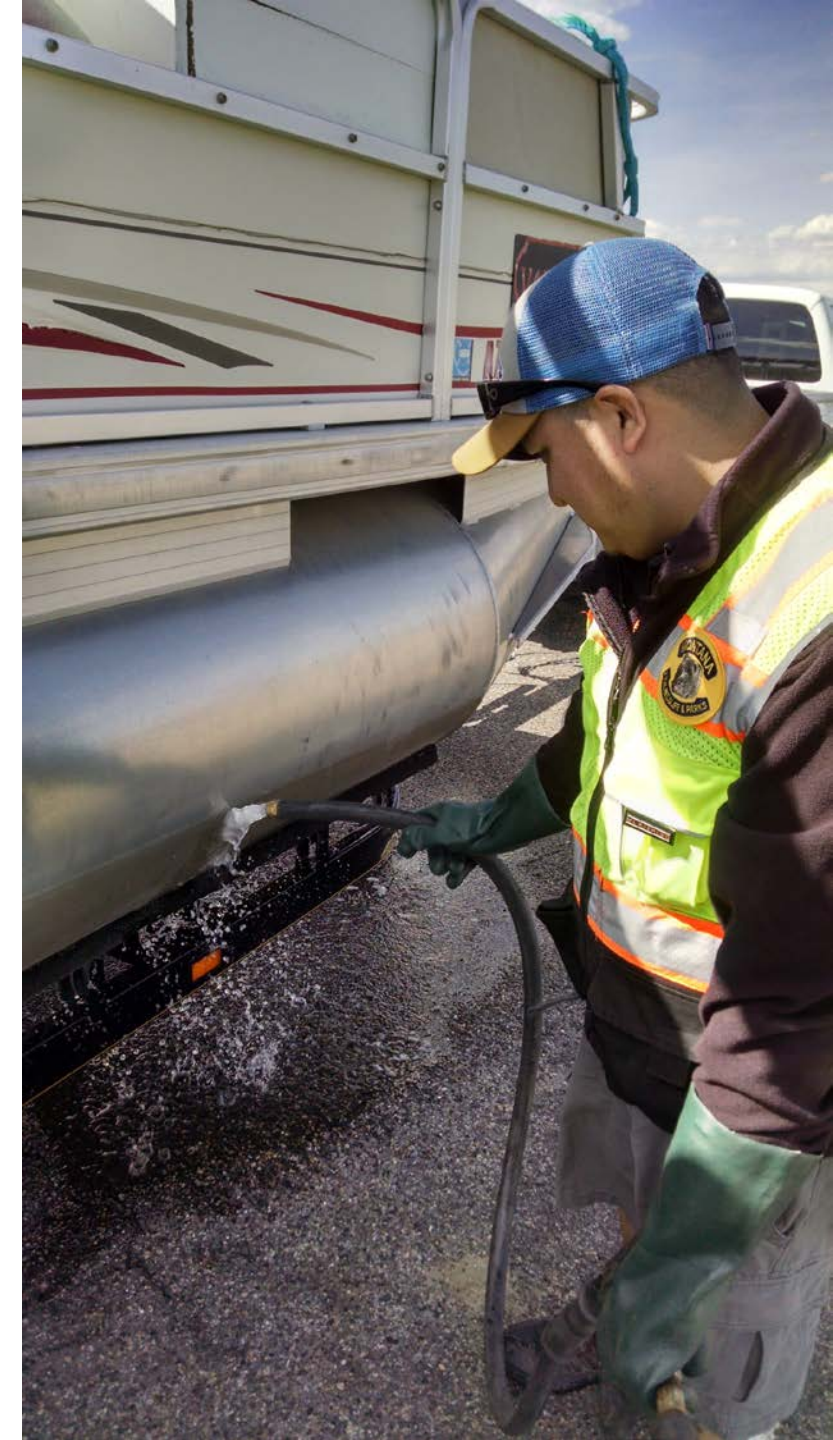


- You must complete this training course with greater than 80% correct answers.
- You then print off the certificate. (Don't lose it or you will need to retake the course).
- Go to an FWP office to sign a contract and receive your local boater decals
- Display a local boater sticker on the stern of your watercraft
- Adhere strictly to all rules and regulations associated with the local boater program



Boaters, Anglers, Paddlers

- Completely remove all mud, water, and vegetation before leaving the access area.
- Inspect your boat, trailer, and all gear. Pay attention to crevices and hidden areas.
- Remove all vegetation (by hand or sprayer).
- Remove all mud (use a pressurized power sprayer, found at most do-it-yourself car washes). The hot water kills organisms and the pressure removes mud and vegetation. No need to use chemicals or soap.
- Dispose of debris in trash or on dry land away from water or ramp.



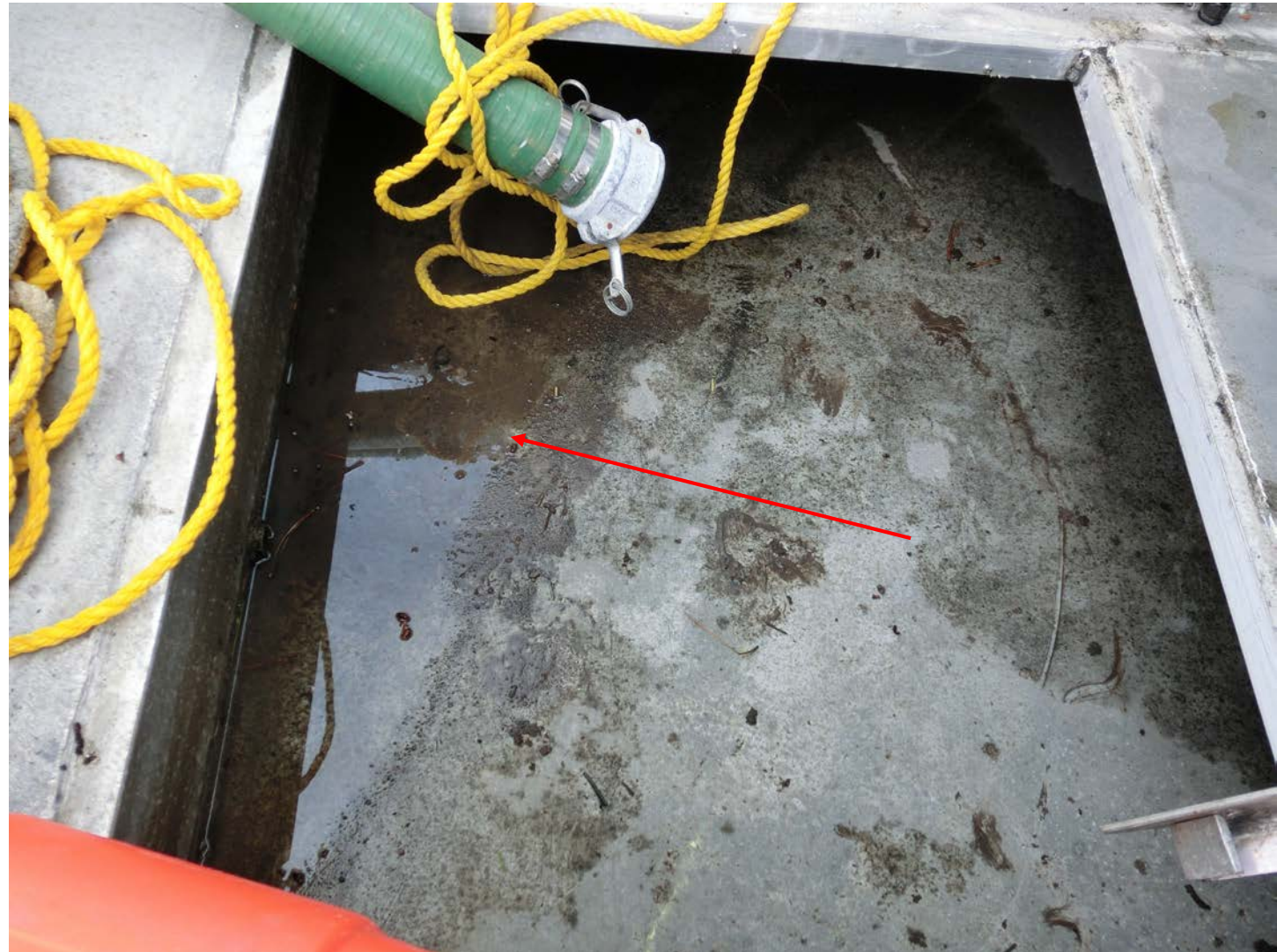
DRAIN.

- Water that remains in your boat after you leave the lake has the potential to transport invasive species such as mussels and pathogens.
- Make sure you completely drain or remove water from your boat, bilge, ballasts, live well, engine, internal compartments, and bait buckets before leaving the access area.



DRY.

- Aquatic invaders can survive only in water and wet areas.
- Dry your watercraft and fishing equipment thoroughly; this will kill most invasive species. The longer you keep your watercraft, trailer, waders, and other equipment outside in the hot sun between fishing trips, the better.



Enforcement


- FWP will be relying heavily on public to not only adhere to these rules but also to help with enforcement.
- Call TIP-MONT if you witness any violations
- Enforcement efforts will be increased across the state



How decontamination stations operate:

Decontamination stations primary function will be to decontaminate boats leaving Canyon Ferry and Tiber Reservoirs.

There will be several steps to ensure the boat is ready to travel to another waterbody.

Step 1. Inspection of vessel to ensure The logo for the decontamination program, featuring the words 'CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.' in a bold, sans-serif font. 'CLEAN.' is in green, 'DRAIN.' is in blue, and 'DRY.' is in dark blue. Above the word 'DRAIN.' is a small blue icon of a person swimming. A single blue water droplet is positioned below the word 'DRY.'

Step 2. If necessary, decontamination of a portion or all of the watercraft

Step 2 may be needed if it does not pass an inspection

Step 2 will be necessary in other scenarios such as:

- Complex boats with intakes that lead to internal engines or plumbing
- Boats with ballast tanks or ballast bags
- Boats moored for long periods of time in the suspect or positive water
- Little or no effort made by boat owner to Clean/Drain/Dry